

Application No. 10/598,591
Amendment dated March 30, 2009
Reply to Office Action dated December 9, 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended): Water-insoluble silicate glass powder, ~~wherein the silicate glass powder exhibits~~ comprising glass particles with the following composition in percentage by weight on an oxide basis:

SiO ₂	20 - 80
Na ₂ O	5 - 30
K ₂ O	0 - 5
P ₂ O ₅	0 - 15
B ₂ O ₃	0 - 10
CaO	4 - 30
MgO	0 - 8
Al ₂ O ₃	0 - 7
Fe ₂ O ₃	0 - 2

~~as well as conventional fining agents in conventional quantities, characterized in that~~
the said glass particles ~~contain~~ further including at least one of the following antimicrobial components:

ZnO
AgO
CuO
CeO₂
GeO₂
TeO₂

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~~wherein these~~ said antimicrobial components ~~are~~ concentrated in ~~the~~ regions of the glass particles that are near the ~~surface~~ surfaces of the glass particles.

Claim 2. (original): Water-insoluble, antimicrobial silicate glass powder in accordance with Claim 1, characterized in that the regions near the surface contain the components in a concentration > 100 ppm and < 8 percent by weight.

Claim 3. (previously presented): Water-insoluble, antimicrobial silicate glass powder in accordance with Claim 1, characterized in that the composition exhibits the following in percentage by weight on an oxide basis:

SiO ₂	38 - 65
Na ₂ O	10 - 30
P ₂ O ₅	4 - 15
B ₂ O ₃	0 - 3
CaO	10 - 30

Claim 4. (previously presented): Water-insoluble, antimicrobial silicate glass powder in accordance with Claim 1, characterized in that the composition exhibits the following in percentage by weight on an oxide basis:

SiO ₂	50 - 80
Al ₂ O ₃	0 - 1
CaO	4 - 15
MgO	0 - 8
Fe ₂ O ₃	0 - 2
Na ₂ O	5 - 20
K ₂ O	0 - 2

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Claim 5. (currently amended): Water-insoluble, antimicrobial silicate glass powder in accordance with Claim 1, characterized in that the size of the particles of the glass powder is $< 100\text{ }\mu\text{m}$, ~~$< 50\text{ }\mu\text{m}$, $< 20\text{ }\mu\text{m}$, preferably $< 5\text{ }\mu\text{m}$, especially preferably $< 2\text{ }\mu\text{m}$.~~

Claim 6. (original) Water-insoluble, antimicrobial silicate glass powder in accordance Claim 5, characterized in that the particles with a size $< 5\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ can be obtained by attritor grinding of the glass in water.

Claims 7-36. (canceled)

Claim 37. (new): Water-insoluble, antimicrobial silicate glass powder in accordance with Claim 1, characterized in that the size of the particles of the glass powder is $< 50\text{ }\mu\text{m}$.

Claim 38. (new): Water-insoluble, antimicrobial silicate glass powder in accordance with Claim 1, characterized in that the size of the particles of the glass powder is $< 20\text{ }\mu\text{m}$.

Claim 39. (new): Water-insoluble, antimicrobial silicate glass powder in accordance with Claim 1, characterized in that the size of the particles of the glass powder is $< 5\text{ }\mu\text{m}$.

Claim 40. (new): Water-insoluble, antimicrobial silicate glass powder in accordance with Claim 1, characterized in that the size of the particles of the glass powder is $< 2\text{ }\mu\text{m}$.